

AMENDMENTS TO CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method for manufacturing a keyboard, comprising the steps of:
 - coloring gel-state silicon rubber by mixing pigments with the silicon rubber;
 - rolling the colored silicon rubber into a plurality of sheets with a predetermined thickness;
 - forming a top pad by press working the sheet such that a plurality of keys are arranged on a top surface of the top pad and a plurality of recesses are formed on a bottom surface thereof to correspond to the keys in view of their shapes and locations, wherein a first engaging jaw is formed by upward bending and horizontally extending a first end of the top pad;
 - forming a bottom pad by press working the sheet such that the bottom pad has a shape corresponding to the bottom surface of the top pad and a width of the bottom pad is further increased, wherein a second engaging jaw is formed by upward bending and horizontally extending a first end of the bottom pad such that the second engaging jaw is brought into close contact with a bottom surface of the first combining jaw;
 - painting surfaces of the keys through a silk-screen printing method;
 - heating the painted top pad at a temperature of 180° for 10 minutes and drying ink painted on the top pad; and
 - aligning the bottom pad and a flexible printed circuit board with electrical contact portions formed thereon corresponding to the recesses with respect to the bottom surface of the top pad and bonding corresponding edges of the top and bottom pads to finish the keyboard.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step for forming the bottom pad comprises the step of forming escape prevention jaws having a relatively narrow width and long length in a longitudinal direction along portions extending widthwise further than the top pad.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein silicon liquid rubber is used as an adhesive in the step.
4. (Cancelled)

5. (Cancelled)

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step for forming the top pad comprises the step of forming a first fitting portion, which grows thicker toward an outermost end, on a second end of the top pad.

7. The method as claimed in claim 6, wherein the step for forming the bottom pad comprises the step of forming a second fitting portion, which corresponds to the first fitting portion and protrudes downward in a certain length along a lateral direction, at a second end on a bottom surface of the bottom pad.

8. (Currently Amended) A keyboard, comprising;

a top pad with a plurality of first keys and second keys integrally formed and arranged on a top surface thereof, wherein the top pad further includes a first engaging jaw formed by upward bending and horizontally extending a first end thereof;

a bottom pad of which width is relatively extended, and of which top surface corresponds to a bottom surface of the top pad in view of their shapes such that edges of the top and bottom pads are bonded to each other, wherein the bottom pad further includes a second engaging jaw formed by upward bending and horizontally extending a first end thereof to come into close contact with a bottom surface of the first combining jaw; and

a flexible printed circuit board which is interposed between the top and bottom pads, sealed therebetween by bonding the edges of the top and bottom pads, and formed with contact portions corresponding to the keys,

wherein first and second recesses are formed on the bottom surface of the top pad to correspond to the first and second keys and the contact portions of the flexible printed circuit board in view of their shapes and locations, and

the top and bottom pads and the keys are made from silicon rubber material and are colored with pigments and painted with inks to give predetermined colors to the pads.

9. The keyboard as claimed in claim 8, wherein the bottom pad further includes escape prevention jaws formed along extended portions of the bottom pad in a longitudinal direction to

have a relatively narrow width and long length.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Cancelled)

12. The keyboard as claimed in claim 8, wherein the top pad further includes a first fitting portion, which grows thicker toward an outermost end, on a second end thereof.

13. The keyboard as claimed in claim 12, wherein the bottom pad further includes a second fitting portion, which corresponds to the first fitting portion and protrudes downward in a certain thickness along a lateral direction, at a second end on a bottom surface thereof.

14. The keyboard as claimed in claim 8, wherein the top and bottom pads are bonded to each other using silicon liquid rubber as an adhesive.

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